

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Pratt and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the public health of your area for the year 1943. This is prepared in accordance with the Circular 10/44 issued by the Ministry of Health.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in acres)	3,204
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943)	
according to Rate Books	2,276
Rateable Value	£102,002
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£352

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for the year are as follows:-

Live Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	179	85	94
Illegitimate	10	6	4

This gives a birth rate per 1000 estimated population of 21.3. The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 16.5.

Still Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	5	4	1

The Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live & still births) is 26.7.

Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	107	40	67

The death rate per 1000 estimated population is therefore 12.0: the death rate for the whole of England and Wales was 12.1 for the same period.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	9	4	5

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the year is 49 which coincides with that of the country as a whole.

Deaths from Special Causes

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	19
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

Public Health Officers of the Authority

There have been no changes in the personnel of the Department during the year.

In the Laboratory, Ambulance Services there have been no changes of note and the Clinics and Hospitals continue as before.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The Sanitary Inspector in his report gives details relating to the conditions appertaining to the water supply and other aspects of the scavenging.

SECTION D

Housing

During the year a report was presented to the Housing Committee indicating the present position so far as housing is concerned and the particulars of houses which should be dealt with as unsuitable as soon as circumstances permit.

It was also estimated that 175 houses would be needed in the immediate post-war period to deal with the displaced tenants and to relieve what may be regarded as the permanent aspect of overcrowding.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

There is nothing unusual to report under this heading.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised during the year, either at Clinics, Schools or by the General Practitioners was as follows:-

1.	Pre-school Children	304
2.	School children	387
	Total	<u>691</u>

The percentage figures of immunised children estimated in the two age groups of 0 - 5 and 5 - 15 years were 60% and 78.2% respectively. This is regarded satisfactory when compared with the corresponding figures for last year of 21% and 49%.

No case of diphtheria was reported during the year and the absence of the disease does tend to engender a feeling of complacency but every effort is still made to get the parents to agree to the immunisation of children.

It is a pleasure to record the help which has been given in this work by the general practitioners, nurses and the school teachers.

Measles reached epidemic proportions during the year but fortunately there were no deaths. There was also an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough but again with no untoward results.

TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1943.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 1 5								
15		3						1
25		2				1		
35	1	2			2			
45 55 65 and over	1				1 1			
TOTALS	2	7			4	1		1

Wartime Health Week.

In April an intensive programme was arranged of lectures, demonstrations and films to try and convey to the general public in the first place the danger of those diseases which are likely to be more prevalent in time of war and secondly to reassure them, if reassurance was necessary, that their war-time dietary was adequate.

The programme was varied and ranged through a Brains Trust Session on "Public Health and Local Government", lectures on Venereal Disease and Tuberculosis, films for school children and a touring Food Exhibition.

The results justified the work entailed and I think the experiment would be worth repeating at an early date.

I should like to conclude my report by expressing my appreciation of the support I have received from the members of the Council and the very willing co-operation I have enjoyed of my colleagues and staff of the Office.

I am, Mrs. Pratt and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ARNOLD STOBBS.

Medical Officer of Health.



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1943.

The Council House,

Stourport-on-Severn.

To the Chairman and Members of the Stourport-on-Severn Urban District Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report of certain work carried out during the year ended 31st. December 1943.

INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

During the year 640 visits of inspection and re-inspection were paid to houses and other premises under the various Acts, Byelaws and Regulations in connection with housing, abatement of nuisances, infectious diseases, etc., It was not found necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Details of the various notifiable diseases are given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health and the table below shows the number of certain types as compared with those for 1942.

Scarlet Fever	43	as	against	14	in	1942
Diphtheria	Nil	"	"	2	"	"

As in previous years inspections, the supply of disinfectant and printed instructions has been continued.

REFUSE SCAVENGING.

This work has again been carried out by the Council's workmen and the details of the work are as follows:-

<u>Dry Refuse</u>		<u>Liquid Refuse</u>	
Dust Bins emptied	111,650	Cesspools emptied	316
Loads removed	1,013	Middens emptied	45
		Pails emptied	17,753
		Loads removed	1,574

This service has been handicapped and unsatisfactory conditions have arisen through the great shortage of galvanized iron dust bins to replace defective and worn out bins at a large number of houses.

CANAL BOATS.

It was again possible to give only very limited attention to these. No complaints were received, neither were any cases of infectious disease notified amongst any of the persons using the boats, and no applications were received for registration.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the District.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No offensive trades were set up during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The total consumption of water for all purposes as recorded by the meters at Mount Pleasant during the year was 134,979,000 gallons. This

was a decrease of 80,000 gallons as compared with the previous year.

A further 22 houses were connected to the mains.

DRAINAGE AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A total of 176 houses which formerly drained to cesspools or which were without proper means of drainage have been connected to the sewers.

36 pail closets have been converted to the water carriage system and proper sinks and a piped water supply provided in many cases.

A considerable improvement has thus been effected in the sanitary conditions and a valuable contribution made to the improved health of the part of the District concerned.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following articles of food have been examined and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Chopped Ham 42 lbs; Crabs 168 lbs; Luncheon Meat 20 lbs;
Ham 40 lbs; Steak 38 lbs; Sausages 53 lbs; Pork and Beans 27 lbs;
Margarine 23 lbs; Potatoes 2 Tons.

A quantity of miscellaneous tinned food including Baked Beans, Meat and Vegetables, Meat Roll, Apples, Jam, Oats, Cocoa, Fish Paste and Fish were also examined. Of these tinned articles over 13,000 tins of Milk were dealt with and although they were unfit for human consumption, a considerable quantity were considered to be suitable for animal feeding and were disposed of for that purpose.

HOUSING.

No dwelling houses were built during the year.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	195
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	197
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	115
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	117
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	58
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	57

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers

30

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	4
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a)	By owners	2
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b)	- Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	70
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners	66
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c)	- Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil
(d)	- Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having being rendered fit.	Nil

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

LEWIS H. POOLE.

Sanitary Inspector.

